

The Columbus Democrat.

H. H. WORTHINGTON.

[A STRICT ADHERENCE TO THE LETTER AND SPIRIT OF THE CONSTITUTION—THE ONLY SAFEGUARD OF THE SOUTH.]

Editor & Proprietor

VOL. XVIII.

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NO. 29.

THE DEMOCRAT

Is published every Saturday Morning.

Terms.

17 SUBSCRIPTION—Three Dollars in advance; Four Dollars if payment is delayed until the expiration of the year.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

17 ADVERTISEMENTS inserted at One Dollar per square, (ten lines or less) for the first and Fifty Cents for each subsequent insertion. 17 Liberal reductions will be made to persons who advertise by the year.

JOB PRINTING.

17 JOB PRINTING neatly executed, on short notice and at reduced rates.

CARDS.

W. H. D. CARRINGTON. THOMAS CHRISTIAN. CARRINGTON & CHRISTIAN. Attorneys & Counsellors at Law COLUMBUS, MISS.

ABERT & PINNETTE. Commission Merchants, NO. 74 COMMERCE STREET, Mobile, Ala. Oct. 6th. 1849.

DR. A. N. JONES

Has removed his office to the store of Jamison & Phipps, in this street, where he would be pleased to see his friends, and where any message left for him will be promptly attended to. Columbus October 19, 1850 16-17

DR. THOS. N. LOVE

RESPECTFULLY offers his professional services to the citizens of Columbus and its vicinity and hopes by close attention to business to merit a share of their patronage. He may be found at all times, when not away where else, at his office or residence, both on the same lot with the City Hall, immediately south of it, formerly occupied by M. J. Howard.

DR. W. SPILLMAN

HAS moved his office to the South side of Main Street, in the building occupied by George F. Jones, Esq., a Clothing Store, where he would be pleased to see his old customers, and as many new ones as may see proper to call. He has on hand a good assortment of such medicines as are generally needed in families. All medicines furnished by him will be warranted pure and genuine. Columbus, Miss., Jan. 3, 1852—27-17

NOTICE.

MARCUS W. CAGE is our authorized agent—Those who are indebted to Weaver, Mullin & Co., Columbus, will find their notes and accounts in his hands. Any one having claims against us will please present them to M. W. Cage. W. M. WEAVER. JOHN M. MULLIN. Columbus, Nov. 16, 1850. 2-17

GEORGE G. HENRY.

Factor & Commission Merchant. Corner of Exchange and Commerce Sts., MOBILE.

Refer to Hon. Geo. R. Clayton, Columbus, Col. Joseph D. Cobb, Miss. Col. Geo. G. Harris, Miss. Col. Geo. A. Young, Waverly, Jan. 10, 1852—29-Ginos.

Dentistry.

R. O. DAVIDSON, Dental Surgeon, having permanently located in Columbus, Miss., is prepared to execute all work in Operative Dentistry in a finished style and the most durable manner. Dr. D. upon association will apply to any cases requiring his service. In his surrounding country and, with eight years experience in the profession, he knows of no such word as fail in his operations. Office corner of Market and Washington streets, opposite Pope's Hotel, and nearly opposite Cady's. January 10, 1852—25-3w.

FOR SALE.

MY PLANTATION, six miles from Columbus, on the Pickens road, between the plantations of Col. N. Davis and H. Collier, containing 180 acres, about 250 under improvement; good comfortable dwellings, with all convenient negro out-houses, and fences in good repair. The place on account of its location, health, buildings, fencing, fertility of soil, &c., is considered very desirable as a residence, &c. Terms easy, and made known upon application to

A. Y. SMITH, or THOS. CHRISTIAN. Columbus. October 25, 1851—16-17.

ALEX. CAMPBELL. JNO. H. BOSWORTH. CAMPBELL & CO. Steamboat Agents, General Receiving and Forwarding Merchants No. 72 Front and 75 Commerce Sts. MOBILE, ALA.

Goods consigned to us for the interior, will be received and forwarded free of commissions and storage. P. S.—CAMPBELL & CO. will ship goods by all classed boats, in the Bigby, Warrior and Alabama rivers. Feb. 1, '51—p32-17.

ROBERT DESHA & CO.

Commission Merchants, MOBILE, ALA. G. A. CHANDLER, AGENT, Columbus, Miss.

I HAVE a large supply of Bagging and Rope on hand, at cost and charge.

G. A. CHANDLER.

All Cotton shipped to the above House, in the name G. A. Chandler, on account of the real owner, will be insured. September 7, 1850. 10-17

H. WELCH & CO.

Carrage Dealers. (Between Conti and Government Streets.)

ARE receiving a large and entirely new stock of Carriages, for cash or approved paper, they intend selling at as low rates as was ever known in Mobile. Mobile, Nov. 4, 1851. 10-17

GAY & BROTHER,

HAVE JUST RECEIVED THEIR STOCK

FALL & WINTER GOODS, which with their stock on hand, render their assortment VERY DESIRABLE.

They feel thankful for the very liberal patronage extended to them, and respectfully solicit a continuance of the same. They invite PLANTERS AND COUNTRY MERCHANT, to an examination of their

Extensive and Splendid Stock before they purchase elsewhere: Staple Dry Goods, Georgia Cable Cord, Kersey, Heavy Negro Blankets, Extra Super Point Mackinaw Blankets, Hats, Boots and Negro Shoes, &c., &c., which they think cannot be purchased either in this market or Mobile on better terms.

Winter Clothing Stock is heavy and general.

FANCY GOODS.

Fashionable and Rich and very beautiful.

Splendid Party Dresses, Super Silks, Colman's Marquises, and De Laine Superfine, White and Colored, Crapes, Shawls, Cashmere and Cassimere Dittos, &c., &c. Gold and Silver Laces, Watches.

RICH JEWELRY.

Silver, Tea, Desert, and Table Spoons; Gold and Silver Spectacles, &c. Saddlery, Hardware, Wood Ware, Iron Ware, Glass, China, and Stone China, Blacksmith and Farming Tools.

DOUBLE BARRELL GUNS.

Fine Chewing Tobacco, &c., &c.

JOS. F. GAY, JNO. H. GAY, November 4, 1851. 31-17

ENTIRE NEW STOCK.

RDY-GOODS.

THE undersigned respectfully invite the citizens of Columbus and the surrounding country to their large and handsome stock of GOODS, just received and now opening, consisting of FANCY and STABLE DRY-GOODS of every style and variety. Clothing, Hats, Caps, Boots and Shoes, comprising all the new styles, for Ladies, Gentlemen and Children; HARDWARE,

WEDDING HOES.

TRACE CHAINS, SADDLES, BRIDLES, MARTINGALES, CROCKERY, GLASS, WOOD & WILLOW WARE.

In addition to which we have just received large and desirable styles of SPRING GOODS, consisting of: Grenadine Tissues, French Jackonets, Balzines, Bareges, Lawn, Organdies, English and French Prints, Albion Checks, Embroidered Muslins, Bayadere, Plaid Silk Tissues, &c.

ALSO—We expect soon to receive some 3000 pair of RUBBERS, and we invite our friends to call and examine. If of which we will sell on as good terms (either for cash or on usual time) as can be bought of any good house in the city of Mobile.

COZART, HUMPHRIES & BILLUPS.

March 1, 1851. n35-17.

NEW GOODS.

THE undersigned beg leave to call the attention of the citizens of Columbus, and the adjoining country, to their stock of

STABLE AND FANCY GOODS.

comprising almost every article in that line: SILKS, BAREGES, MUSLINS, LAWNS, Gingham, Calicoes, Laces and Edgings, and all the new and fashionable styles of Dress Goods:

Brown and Bleached Cotton Goods of every width and quality; Cottonades, Nankins, Cotton and Linen Coatings, and goods for summer wear.

Rich Linen, Table and Brown Linen napkins, Linen Sheetings, 6, 10 and 12 wide; Silk, Worsted and Cotton Hose and Hosiery, Gloves, Mitts, Handkerchiefs, Gravats, Suspenders, and articles for the Toilet, in great variety. Also, a large stock of new and fashionable ready made Clothing, Cloths, Cassimere, and Vestings, Boots and Shoes, Saddlery, China, Glass, Stone, Wood, Silver, Britannia, and Hardware, Jewellery, &c., &c.

The above, with their full assortment of goods for plantation use, Blankets, kerseys, Linseys, Osnaburgh Wool Hats, &c., they offer to all more particularly to those to whom they are under so many obligations for their liberal patronage for years past.

A. SIMPSON & CO. 38-17.

March 23, 1850.

Groceries Groceries.

HADEN & READ. Market Street, Columbus, Miss.

HAVE on hand a large and well-selected assortment of GROCERIES, to-wit: Brown, clarified, crushed, powdered and loaf Sugars.

Java and Rio Coffee.

Molasses, New Orleans Syrup and Rice.

Pepper, Ginger, Alapice, Salsaras, Ketchups and Pickles.

Imperial and Gunpowder Teas;

Cinnamon, Cloves, Nutmegs, Crackers;

Mustard, Lemon Syrup and Dried Fruit;

Sperm and Star Candles, Soap and Starch;

Iron and Steel, Nails, Castings;

Wine, Brandy, Rum, Whiskey;

Powder, Shot and Lead.

and they will keep on hand the best Family Flour, Corn Meal, Bacon, and every article in the grocery line—with Cheating and Smoking Tobacco, and hogs—of all which will be sold low for CASH. They will buy, or make liberal advances on cotton ore.

NOTICE OF INSOLVENCY.

THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI.

Lauderdale County.

To all persons having claims against the Estate of JONATHAN DECHERD, Dec'd.

YOU are hereby notified to present your claims duly proved and allowed according to law, to the Clerk of the Probate Court of said county, to be filed for examination and appointment by the First Monday in September, A. D. 1852, or they will be barred, said estate having been duly declared insolvent.

Witness, the Hon. Nathaniel E. Goodwin, Judge of the Probate Court of said county, the 1st Monday of September, A. D. 1851.

Issued September 8th, A. D. 1851.

DANIEL WILLIAMS, Ck. September 13, 1851—11-2m. [P. F. 827]

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

Fellow citizens of the Senate, and House of Representatives:

I have been unexpectedly, and under peculiar circumstances, called to discharge the duties of Chief Executive of your State.

The Constitution makes it obligatory on me as such officer, to recommend to the consideration of the Legislature, such measures as I may deem necessary and expedient. And, in the performance of that duty, I desire to call your attention to the first place, to the propriety of passing an act, referring to the people a change in the organic law, so as to prevent in future, an interregnum in the executive department of the State. On the 3rd day of February, 1851, one of my predecessors (Gen. Quitman), from motives highly honorable to himself, and as he conceived from a proper regard to what was due to the honor & dignity of a sovereign State, resigned the office of Chief Magistrate. The duties of that station devolved upon the Hon. J. I. Guion, by virtue of his office as President of the Senate. But at the general election on the 3d and 4th days of November last, his senatorial term expired, and with it, as a consequence, the executive office which he had been invested; and from that time until the Senate was convened, by virtue of the proclamation of the Secretary of State, and a President elected by that body, there was no one authorized to exercise the functions of Chief Magistrate. I am not aware of any serious detriment to the public service having occurred in this particular instance, more than the delay in issuing commissions, and approving the bonds of the various officers elected by the people; but when it is remembered that upon the Executive devolves the duty of taking care that the laws be faithfully executed, that he is invested in certain cases with power to grant reprieves and pardons, to remit fines and stay the collection of forfeitures, that he is the keeper of the great seal of the State, with power to issue commissions, and fill vacancies, the necessity of so providing by an amendment to the constitution, that the office shall never become vacant, will readily occur to any one. I would therefore suggest the propriety of passing a law, recommending to the people at the next general election, a change in the Constitution, providing that the President of the Senate or the Speaker of the House of Representatives, when they should be invested with the executive office, according to the Constitution, should hold and exercise the duties of the same until the Governor, elected by the people, should be regularly installed; or, if it should be considered more advisable, to provide for the election of a Lieutenant Governor, to exercise the duties of President of the Senate, and to act as Governor of the State, when by death, removal or resignation, that office should become vacant. In connection with this subject, I herewith transmit to the Legislature, a Report from the Auditor of Public Accounts, giving full and highly satisfactory statements of the condition of the finances of the State. From this report, it will be seen, that the sums collected and paid into the Treasury during the fiscal year 1850, amounted to the sum of \$124,033.95; and the sums collected and paid in the year 1851, amounted to the sum of \$321,200.21; and that there has during these periods, been disbursed in obedience to law, the sum of \$519,570.63, leaving in the Treasury on the 11th day of December, 1851, a balance amounting to the sum of \$525,910.88; subject to such appropriations as may be ordered by legislative enactment. For details, I respectfully refer you to the Report of the Auditor of Public Accounts.

Owing to severe family affliction, the late Treasurer has not finished his biennial report. When received by this department, which is expected in a few days, it will be communicated to the Legislature.

I have no alterations to suggest in relation to the laws heretofore passed in relation to the collection of the Public Revenue. The officers charged with the performance of these duties, so far as has been made known to the executive department, have performed them with as much skill and efficiency, as at any former period; and the condition of the public treasury gives the most gratifying assurance of the ability and integrity with which the financial department of the State Government has been managed.

By an act of the Legislature, approved March 9, 1851, entitled, "an act to promote common schools in the several counties in this State," the sum of \$200,000 was appropriated to be distributed amongst the different counties in the State, for the purposes and upon the conditions, prescribed in the act.

By the 2nd section of the act, it was made the duty of the assessors of taxes in the several counties, to make an accurate enumeration of all the free white children in their respective counties, who were over six, and under twenty years of age; that said enumeration should be transmitted to the Auditor of Public Accounts, who should thereupon apportion the sum amongst the different counties, according to the number of children entitled to schooling under the provisions of said act. In consequence of the enumeration not having been furnished according to the provisions of the 2d section of the act, the Auditor of Public Accounts has not been enabled to apportion the sum appropriated by the Legislature as was intended; and said sum of money yet remains in the Treasury, subject to be paid out whenever the enumeration required by the law, shall have been made; or subject to such changes and modifications as the Legislature may think proper to make. By the 5th section of that act, it was provided that the fund, when distributed to the several counties, should be loaned out under the supervision of the Board of Police, or the School Commissioners of said counties.

Experience has proven that public funds, when loaned out in small sums, under the direction of public officers, have either been lost or so endangered, that the delays and expenses incident to their collection have materially depreciated the fund. In spite of all the guards thrown around it by public enactment, a degree of favoritism will exist, prompting the agents to accommodate friends, and those suffering most for want of money, improper indulgences will be given or insufficient securities taken, and thus a fund appropriated under the influence of an expansive charity, highly creditable to the

people's representatives, and intended for the enlightenment of the rising generation, may in a few years be squandered, and utterly fail in conferring upon the people the blessings for which it was intended. We need not go beyond the limits of our own State for lessons of experience upon this subject, and they are abundant to prove that sums of money, when entrusted even to those who have a direct interest in their preservation, for the purpose of being loaned out, are in great danger of being lost, either from negligence or an undue confidence in others; and in order to avoid any risk of this character, I would recommend to the Legislature, so to amend the act, as to make it the duty of the State Treasurer with the approval of the Governor, to invest the whole fund in Government Stock, and that the interest arising thereupon, be annually divided among the several counties, pursuant to the spirit of said law.

The State University is an Institution properly cherished by the people, as affording the means of a finished education within our own borders; and I am happy to inform you that it is in a prosperous condition. Our people are beginning to awake to the great importance of educating their sons, amidst the institutions peculiar to the Southern States; and whilst they are unwilling to expose them to the contaminating influences and gratuitous insults to which they would be liable as citizens of a slave holding State, while seeking the means of an education abroad, they have learned the true economy of expending their money within the State, and of encouraging institutions reared by ourselves. The Report of the Trustees of the University, will be laid before you in due season; and I sincerely hope it will be found that further legislative enactment is necessary to advance the prosperity or extend the beneficial influences of the Institution, that it will meet with prompt and efficient action on your part.

The Report of the Commissioners of the Lunatic Asylum will exhibit the progress of that work since the last appropriation—its present condition, and the amount of appropriation necessary to complete it, and render it fit for the purposes for which it was intended. It could not reasonably have been expected that a Hospital for the Insane, designed as a monument for the charity and enlightened philanthropy of the State, could have been finished for the sums already expended upon it. A considerable amount will yet be required to finish and put it in a condition for the reception of those children of misfortune for whose benefit it was designed, and the question is now to be settled whether it is better to let it remain in its present condition, and risk the loss of the money already expended upon it, or to make an appropriation necessary to complete and put it in operation.

It will be proper to mention that when the appropriation was made, it was intended that the State should furnish the brick for the building; but the condition of affairs in the Penitentiary was such that it was found to be impossible to appropriate the labor of the convicts to that purpose; and the Commissioners of the Asylum were forced to expend a large amount of the appropriation for the purchase of brick.

In intimate connection with this subject, I refer with great pleasure to the Institution established by the Legislature, for the support and education of the Blind. The Report of the Commissioners will be presented, showing that the Institution is under good management, and is conferring great benefits upon an unfortunate class of individuals, who are entitled to our warmest sympathies. Such institutions stand as noble monuments of legislative munificence, and evidence the goodness, as well as those who aid in carrying them into successful operation, to the lasting gratitude of the country. Before taking leave of this subject, I would respectfully recommend it to the fostering care of the Legislature.

One other institution of kindred character is still wanting to complete the list of noble charities so characteristic to Southern generosity: I refer to an asylum for the deaf and dumb. The poor mute who is permitted to gaze upon the beauties of nature, but whose ears are forever closed to the sweet melody which Providence has ordained, to gladden the human heart, and whose tongue has never learned to hold social converse with his fellow-creatures, or even to unite in praises to the Most High—is subject to claim our anxious solicitude, and prompt us to some action to ameliorate their condition; whilst they can only be taught to appreciate the beauties of Providence, and the scheme of Redemption by teaching them how to read. Let us not withhold from them this exalted privilege, so fraught with happiness to all who enjoy its benefits; and, whilst they can only converse with their fellow-creatures and enjoy that social intercourse so necessary to the happiness of all, by learning to write—let us do something towards unstopping the ears of the deaf, and making the dumb to speak through the medium of the pen.

I would, therefore, recommend that a small appropriation be made, similar to the one made for the benefit of Blind, in order to employ a teacher or teachers and found a school, for the benefit of this class of our people, which may be changed or enlarged as circumstances may hereafter require. And with this additional institution the people of Mississippi may justly feel that they have done everything which could be done by Legislative enactment to educate the poor, and ameliorate the condition of the suffering and afflicted.

In view of the intimate connection between this and the institution for the Blind, I respectfully suggest that the two might be blended under one general supervision, thereby lessening the expense to the State, without detriment to either.

At the session of the Legislature of 1846, much alarm prevailed on the subject of the small pox, and by the act of 23 March, 1846, a vaccine depot and agency was established at the city of Jackson, with an annual salary of \$400 to be paid to the agent. The causes for this alarm have long since passed away, and the report of the agent, which is herewith transmitted, will show that the State is expending a sum of money wholly disproportionate to the necessities of the case, the vaccine matter being accessible to all at a trifling expense. Therefore, I submit to the Legislature the propriety of abolishing the office of Vaccine Agent, and saving the expense in future.

In many of the Reports herewith transmitted, there is nothing which requires special comment. In reference to the Penitentiary, I would suggest the propriety of adding machinery equal to the capacity of the building and engine, for the purpose of manufacturing cotton and woolen goods. This will necessarily lessen the expense arising from the employment of apprentices and guards, the inmates will be confined within the walls of the prison, and the employment of the convicts will not only be more profitable to the State, but, from the nature of the employment, they will cease to compete with the honest and hard-working mechanic, who diligently labors for the support of a family, and who is everywhere estimated as being among the most useful members of society. The highly intelligent gentleman who for four years past has had the superintendence of the State prison, has labored unceasingly, not only to employ the convict labor in a way to promote the best interests of the State, but to provide, by all possible means, for the health and security of the prisoners, and for as much personal comfort as was compatible with the discipline of the reformation of the convict, and to treat him with humanity; to give him such moral and religious instruction as his situation affords, and to make him feel that, although degraded by a conviction, he is still a man, with hopes that reach beyond the term of his imprisonment, and is believed to be a policy not only dictated by humanity, but one which springs from a due regard to the best interests of society.

The subject of Internal Improvements, generally, is at this time claiming a large share of public attention, not only in this, but in most of the States of the Union.

The Constitutional power of the General Government to make improvements within the States is a subject that has long been agitated in the halls of Congress, and constitutes one of the principal features upon which the two great parties of the country are divided at the present time. The sentiment of a large portion of the American people being opposed to the exercise of such powers by Congress, throws upon the State Government the necessity of aiding their citizens, as far as convenient and practicable to do so, in constructing such works of internal improvement as may have a tendency to develop the agricultural resources, and promote the commerce of the country. We, very properly, deny to the General Government the right of exercising any powers not delegated in the Constitution, and perhaps no power has ever been claimed by Congress so baldly to abuse as the one under consideration, whereby large sums of money may be drawn from the pockets of the people, to be squandered upon schemes calculated to corrupt the States and control the patronage of the Government, or for the creation of a great national debt, thereby imposing upon the country the necessity of high protective tariffs, for the purpose of liquidating it, and building up the manufacturing at the expense of the agricultural and commercial interests of the country.

But whilst our safety as a sovereign State consists in a firm opposition to the exercise of any such powers upon the part of the Federal Government, we should at the same time remember that the duty of providing for the wants of the country by a liberal, but judicious system of internal improvements is imperative upon the State Government.

By an act of the Legislature, passed on the 19th February, 1850, the Governor was authorized and required to purchase a block of stone, of apt and suitable dimensions, for the Washington National Monument, to be suitably inscribed, and presented in the name of the State to the National Monument Society. This duty has been promptly and cheerfully performed by my predecessors. The stone has been prepared and forwarded in the name of the State to the President of the Society, with the following engraved upon it in deep Roman letters: "The State of Mississippi to the Father of his Country, A. D. 1851," and also the Coat of Arms and Great Seal of the State. Thus the State of Mississippi, beside her sister States of the Confederacy, contributed to rear a monument to the memory of George Washington.

In pursuance of the resolution passed 5th day of March, 1850, my predecessor, Governor Quitman, appointed Peter G. Washington, Esq., an agent on behalf of the State, to adjust with the proper department any amount of the 2 and 3 per cent. funds that might be found to be due to this State. Said agent has, as yet, furnished no report of his action in the premises. Whenever the same shall be received, it will be promptly communicated to the Legislature.

From the Report of the State Commissioner, accompanying this communication, you will learn the condition of the Sinking Fund, and such other matters as have been placed under his charge, by virtue of the laws heretofore passed on this subject.

By the act of 4th March, 1846, it was made the duty of the Secretary of State to have prepared and furnished to the several Clerks of Probate, of this State, "a uniform standard of weights and measures," so soon as practicable, according to the provisions of an act of Congress, establishing a uniform standard of weights and measures, for the United States. This duty has not been performed, as will appear by the Report of the Secretary upon that subject, herewith transmitted, in consequence of no appropriation having been made to enable him to do so. I, therefore, recommend to the Legislature the propriety of making an appropriation in order to carry into effect the act referred to.

The Report of the same officers upon the subject of the Chickasaw school lands exhibits the number of acres confirmed to the State in lieu of the sixteen sections, the number of acres disposed of, and the sums of money realized therefor. I am not apprised that any further legislation is necessary upon this subject, unless it be to reduce the minimum price of the land so as to afford a reasonable expectation that it will be disposed of within a few years, and the proceeds be made available for the purposes intended.

I deem it proper to call your attention to an act passed 9th March, 1850, authorizing the Judges of the High Court of Errors and Appeals to meet annually, on the 3d Monday in June, in the town of Oxford, to receive written, and to hear oral argument of causes, and fixing their compensation for such services at \$500 per annum. I have been informed that, in consequence of the non attendance of the members of the Bar, no such court has been held as the one contemplated by the act; and, as it has wholly failed to accomplish the purpose for which it was intended, I would recommend its repeal.

In connection with this subject, it is proper to state, that on the 1st day of October last, the Hon. Wm. L. Sharkey, who has so long and so ably discharged the duties of Chief Justice of the State, resigned, and, fearing that there might be a failure in the December Term of the Court, in consequence of the non-attendance of one of the Judges, I appointed Collin S. Tarpley, Esq., as one of the Judges, of that Court, to act until the successor of Judge Sharkey should be elected and qualified. The appointment was accepted by Col. Tarpley, at my solicitation, and upon the express understanding that he was to be relieved from the duties of office at as early a day as practicable. After remaining upon the Bench until the Court adjourned on the 1st Monday in January, he resigned, upon the ground that the object of the appointment had been accomplished by the holding of the Court, and he was unwilling to remain in office and receive the salary without being able to render any equivalent therefor in the way of public service.

The writ of election has been issued to fill the vacancy, and the election ordered to take place on the 19th day of the present month.

On the 23d day of September last, the Hon. Jefferson Davis resigned his seat, as one of the Senators in Congress from this State, and the Hon. J. J. McKee has been appointed to serve in his place, until the meeting of the Legislature, and the election of some one to fill the residue of the Term to which Col. Davis was elected.

Mr. McKee, immediately after his appointment, repaired to Washington, where he is now engaged in the performance of his duties, as one of the Senators from this State.

The Report of the Commissioners of the Southern Railroad has not yet been received; when it shall come to hand, it will be promptly laid before you. That it is a work of great importance, not only to the people residing in the eastern portion of the State, but, (when taken in connection with other improvements of a similar character,) to the country at large, will be readily perceived. At the same time, it must be admitted that large sums have already been expended, while, to all appearance, but little has been done towards the completion of the work; and it may become a matter of serious inquiry how far the State is benefitted in an effort to construct a public work, though an agency that has no capital at stake, and is to derive no personal benefit from the enterprise. Terms of a liberal character have been offered by the Legislature to any private company who would undertake to complete the road. And from the fact that no offer has been made upon the terms proposed, I would suggest the propriety of holding out still greater inducements, in order to have the road completed by individual enterprise.

It has been but a few years since the first railroad was constructed in this country, and then, for the want of experience, and the high price of materials, it was considered absolutely expedient. But time and repeated experiments have tested their great utility; until now, there are upwards of ten thousand miles of railroad, built at a cost of more than 300,000,000 of dollars, in successful operation, in the various States of the Union, and perhaps half as many more miles projected and in the course of construction. They traverse regions of country heretofore considered as worthless, in consequence of their remoteness from market, developing their agricultural and mineral resources, and giving to them a value equal to the most favored regions, by affording the facilities for transportation with speed, safety and economy, they invite emigration to the country, adding immensely to the value of real estate; causing flourishing towns and villages to spring up as by magic in the wilderness, promoting the convenience and increasing the commerce and adding to the wealth of the people, at the same time enriching the coffers of the State. Nor have railroads had a less decided or beneficial tendency in building up manufactures by affording the means of supplying the raw material at a diminished cost, and of distributing the same, when manufactured, to the consumers in every part of the State. I need scarcely dwell upon the great importance of having our staple products manufactured in our own borders, thereby saving to the people of the State, the vast amount now paid by them to support the labor of other countries, as well as the cost of transportation, insurance, commissions, exchange and profits, all of which are paid by the consumer. There is no good reason why the people of Mississippi should rely upon other States to furnish them with the cotton and woolen goods which they consume, when the materials out of which they are manufactured, are so abundant at home, or look to other countries for supplies of shoes, hats, caps, paper, saddlery, furniture, carriages, &c., &c., when by opening railroad communications with New Orleans, Mobile, Savannah, and Charleston, the materials as well as the machinery used in their manufacture, may be so easily conveyed into the State, and the profits of the labor, as well as the incidental expenses be saved to the country. Surely there has been no previous time in our history, when the Southern States should use all the means at their command, or struggle so earnestly to make themselves independent of those who seek to destroy our institutions, while they are growing rich upon the proceeds of our labor, and there is no other means by which that can be accomplished more readily than entering upon a well designed scheme of internal improvements granting to our farming and commercial interests, all the facilities to be derived from the means of intercommunication with our sister States of the South, and a ready and cheap access, to those points where our great staple finds the best market, by building manufacturing in our own State, and by opening a direct trade between the Southern ports and the markets of Europe. Other Southern States have progressed rapidly in their march to independence by expending large sums in the construction of railroads, and giving proper encouragement to induce their citizens to establish manufactures, and already the enhanced value of their property, and the additions made thereby to the wealth, happiness and contentment of their citizens,